namely, Nashik, Trimbakeshwar and Nanded and four towns of Andhra Pradesh namely; Bhadrachalam, Mancharial, Rajamundry and Ramagundam. The scheme was approved by Government in July, 1995 under me National River Conservation Plan (NRCP). The approved cost of works in these States is Rs. 146.06 crore. Out of this amount, the cost of works for towns of Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh are Rs. 95.03 crore and Rs. 51.03 crore respectively. Under the plan, municipal sewage shall be intercepted and diverted for treatment. The Plan also includes other works such as construction of low cost toilets, river front development, improved wood crematoria, afforestation and public participation and public awareness etc.

(d) to (f) The Government has released a total amount of Rs. 57.32 crore so far under this Plan, out of which an amount of Rs. 44.73 crore has been released to the State of Maharashtra and Rs. 12.59 crore released to the State of Andhra Pradesh. The works are being implemented by the implementing agencies of respective State Governments. The role of NGOs is generally restricted to the Public Participation and Awareness Component of the programme.

Eco-crisis in Orissa

3763. MISS MABEL REBELLO:
SHRI B. J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Orissa is very much vulnerable to climate change which can trigger ecocrisis in the State;

(b) whether in the absence of protection, one meter sea level rise can inundate vast prime agricultural lands and displace thousands of people and so on, as per study conducted and reported in the media; and

(c) in the face of this, whether Government have drawn up short and long term plans to save the coastal State from such natural calamities, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) According to India Meteorological Department no statistically significant trend of increase of extreme weather events has been noticed in the State of Orissa.

(b) and (c) According to Inter-government Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)-a United Nations body constituted for assessing climate change globally, it has been projected that the global mean sea level may rise between 0.09 and 0.88 metres over the next century. However, lot of uncertainties are associated with these projections due to lack of knowledge of the impacts in various sectors at regional/sub-regional level. However, Government has taken several steps to address green house gas emissions responsible for global warming leading to rise in sea level. These include energy efficiency, energy conservation, renewable energy programmes, fuel switching to cleaner energy, afforestation and better cultivar practices.

Contract Research

†3764. SHRLMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'contract research' is banned in India by assuming it as immoral;

(b) if so, in what manner contract research is going on in our labs; and

(c) if not, the steps Government are going to take to prevent the cruel behaviour against animals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIDILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) No Sir.

(b) Contract research is conducted mainly for regulatory toxicology testing in laboratories by institutes and organizations.

(c) Contract research can be conducted only with the prior permission of Committee for the purpose of Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals (CPCSEA) as per the amended rules in vogue.

Garbage causing health hazards

3765. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact, that stock filed garbage in the cities and towns in the country are causing health hazards;

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take for collection, transportation and disposal of garbage;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.